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(54) METHOD AND DEVICE FOR IDENTIFYING **SMALL ANIMAL BY IMAGE RECOGNITION**

(57) Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To provide a small animal detecting method and a small animal detecting device which can judge an intruder, a small animal, an insect, etc., by an image recognizing means on the basis of image data picked up by a camera.

SOLUTION: This device consists of an image pickingup means 1 such as a camera, an image storing means 3, an image region setting means 4 setting a recognition object image region, a difference operating means 5 for operating and outputting differential image data between background image data 31 and currently monitored image data, an abnormal shape extracting means 6 for extracting an abnormal shape on the basis of a preliminarily registered and stored threshold, a bottom part grounding position detecting means 7 for detecting the grounding position to floor of an abnormal shape, a real shape extracting means 9 correctively operating shape dimensions and extracting real shape data, an intruding object deciding means 11 deciding the type of an intruding object according to the real shape data and the acceptance/rejection data of

bottom part ground-contact position detection and a judging condition memory 10 storing the judging conditions of the intruding object deciding means.

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